JAP12 Rec'd PCT/PTO 13 APR 2007

PATENT APP. SER. NO. 10/583,189 ATTY. DOCKET NO. 1717586

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re Patent Application of: | |) | Examiner: | Unknown | |
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| Shuushi Kitamura | | |) | Group Art Unit: | Unknown |
| Interna | ational A | Appln. No. PCT/JP2004/0187 | 82) | Confirmation No.: | 6539 |
| Serial l | No.: | 10/583,189 |) | | |
| Filing 1 | Date: | June 16, 2006 |) | | |
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Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration of relevant portions thereof by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

2183185.01.02.doc 1717586 This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such extension is requested and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees in connection with the filing of this statement to our Deposit Account No. 50-0305.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Schneider Reg. No. 27,383

Date: April 10, 2007 Chapman and Cutler LLP 111 West Monroe Street, Suite 1700 Chicago, Illinois 60603-4080 (312) 845-3919

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents on the date indicated below.

| Brenda Walton |
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| Signature |
| April 10,2007 |
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| Examiner | Cite | Document Number | U. S. PATENT D | Name of Patentee or | Pages, Columns, Lines Where |
|-----------|--------------|---|----------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Initials* | Cite No.1 | Number-Kind Code ^{2 (# known)} | MM-DD-YYYY | Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
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| | | JP 07-017571 (with English Abstract) | 01-20-1995 | Nippon Paper Ind. Co. Ltd. | | Г |
| | | JP 07-113017 (with English Abstract) | 05-02-1995 | Sekisui Chem. Co. Ltd. | | |
| | | JP 08-512356 (with English Abstract) | 12-24-1996 | Biotec Biologische N. GmbH | | |
| | | JP 2000-119431 (with English Abstract) | 04-25-2000 | Kyodo Kumiai Business Club | | |
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| Examiner | Date | |
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Attorney Docket Number

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| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | Number-Kind Code ^{2 (f known)} | | | rigures Appear |
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